

Appendix I: Evidence-Based Decision Making Research Matrix Findings – by Decision Point

Primary Citation: Case, Steadman, Dupuis, & Morris (2009)

The application of structured assessment tools such as the HCR-20 and PCL:SV could potentially be used to assess mentally ill offenders' diversion eligibility, and to place them in community-based treatment, thereby reducing the number of noncompliances and reincarcerations.

Primary Citation: Barber-Rioja, Dewey, Kopelovich, & Kucharski (2012)

Violation response decisions (response level, sanctions, behavior change interventions)

Research supports correctional agencies' adoption of operant behavioral techniques in the management of offenders on community supervision. Specifically, rewards should exceed sanctions in a ratio of 4:1.

Primary Citation: Wodahl, Garland, Culhane, & McCarty (2011)

A model that encompasses both rewards and sanctions is more highly predictive of successful program completion than a reward model or a sanction model alone. The probability of successful program completion is optimized when the reward-to-sanction ration is 4:1.

Primary Citation: Andrews & Bonta (2010)

Stringent supervision conditions tend to produce more technical violations and more incarceration and do not reduce recidivism by themselves.

Primary Citation: Petersilia & Turner (1993)

Sanctions on their own do not change offender behavior or reduce recidivism. More severe sanctions may increase recidivism.

Primary Citations: Smith, Goggin, & Gendreau (2002); Gendreau & Goggin (1996)

Even graduated sanctions (i.e., incrementally escalating the severity of penalties for noncompliant behavior) can ultimately lead to noncompliance; specifically, individuals may become habituated to punishment such that future sanctions are rendered ineffective at suppressing unwanted behavior.

Primary Citation: Wodahl (2007)

Immediacy, fairness, consistency, and proportionality in responding to misbehavior are important to shaping behavior.

Primary Citation: Taxman, Soule, & Gelb (1999)

For responses to noncompliance (i.e., punishers) to be effective, they must be (1) swift (happen as quickly as possible), (2) certain (be applied each time the undesirable behavior occurs), (3) fair (be perceived as fair and consistent with similar situations), (4) responsive (take into consideration the unique characteristics of the individual), (5) proportional (be no more severe than the behavior warrants), and (6) parsimonious (employ as few interventions and resources as possible).

Primary Citation: Carter (2015)

Confinement is an ineffective sanction for technical violations, and actually can result in increased recidivism rates.

Primary Citation: Drake & Aos (2012)

Attention to staff characteristics and skills is necessary to enhance outcomes with offenders.

Primary Citation: Dowden & Andrews (2004)